

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
July 20, 2006

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Committee to Examine Coordination of Law Enforcement in Capital

What: Government Reform Committee Hearing,
“Policing Capital Sites: Improving Coordination, Training and
Equipment”

When: FRIDAY, July 21, 2006, 10:00 A.M.

Where: ROOM 2154, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Background: As the seat of the federal government, Washington, D.C. is home to numerous secure sites, which are protected by federal police units.

Federal law enforcement agencies share responsibility with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for protecting the federal facilities in the Nation’s Capital. The critical nature of this joint mission and the shared responsibility among a myriad of agencies require a high degree of cooperation and coordination.

Among these federal agencies are: the Naval District of Washington; the U.S. Army Military District of Washington; Federal Protective Services; and U.S. Park Police. Representatives from these four offices will testify about their current readiness, interoperability, adequacy of equipment and training, and the level of coordination in their core law enforcement missions.

The authority for MPD to receive crime prevention and law enforcement assistance from the 32 federal law enforcement agencies is specified in the 1997 Police Coordination Act, which is part of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act.

The Police Coordination Act allows federal agencies and MPD to enter into cooperative agreements so that federal agency personnel can patrol areas around federal buildings, donate or share equipment or supplies, share radio frequencies, and streamline the process of arresting suspects. Prior to adoption of the Act, federal law enforcement officers had to rely solely on the authority of MPD officers.

Witnesses:

Rear Admiral Terence McKnight, Commandant, Naval District Washington
Major General Guy C. Swan III, United States Army, Military District of Washington
Joseph W. Trindal, Regional Director, National Capital Region, Federal Protective
Service
Michael D. Fogarty, Assistant Chief of Police, United States Park Police

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